

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 cancelled.

16. (New) A rail seat having a rail pad adapted to lie on a rail tie that supports a rail between rail fastening support shoulders and which includes:

a) a pair of transversely oriented rail fastening support shoulders mounted on said rail tie in spaced relationship to respective base edges of the rail, each shoulder having a surface confronting the rail base edge and lateral surfaces extending away from the rail base edge;

b) a generally rectangular rail pad positioned on said tie, between said shoulders, the pad having projections at each corner of the pad, each projection including a raised thickened portion abutting a respective lateral surface of the support shoulder;

c) an insulator having a post portion lying between the rail confronting face of the support shoulder and an edge of the rail pad that underlies a respective base edge of the rail;

d) wherein each support shoulder has a projection extending from each said lateral surface thereof for abutting an outward surface of the raised thickened portion of the rail pad thereby locating the pad in a position to accommodate the post portion of the insulator.

17. (New) A rail seat as claimed in claim 16 together with a recess formed along each outward edge of the pad for receiving a respective post of the insulator, the recess having a web which is a thin extension of the rail pad main body on which the insulator seats.

18. (New) A rail seat as claimed in claim 16 in which the raised thickened portion abutting a respective lateral surface of the support shoulder includes a surface from which extends a resilient tab which creates a force fit between the rail pad and the support shoulder.

19. (New) The rail seat set forth in claim 16 wherein each raised thickened portion tapers downwardly, along a direction parallel to the rail base edge and away from the support shoulder.

20. (New) The rail seat set forth in claim 16 wherein the insulator is a deep post insulator.
21. (New) A rail pad for use in a rail seat of claim 16 and adapted to lie on a rail tie between rail fastening support shoulders, the pad further comprising:
- a) said projections extending parallel to the tie alongside respective lateral surfaces of each shoulder, said projections having a vertical thickness greater than the rest of the rail pad;
 - b) in a recess for the post portion of the insulator, a web which is a thin extension of the rail pad on which the post insulator seats; and
 - c) on the surface of said projections which abut said lateral surfaces of the support shoulders, a resilient tab which creates a force fit between the rail pad and the support shoulder.